

State of Minnesota
County of Hennepin

District Court
4th Judicial District

Prosecutor File No.
Court File No.

18A04173
27-CR-18-8629

State of Minnesota,

Plaintiff,

vs.

BRENDIAN KEWON DANIELS DOB: 05/14/1980

2631 Newton Ave N
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Order of Detention

The Complainant submits this complaint to the Court and states that there is probable cause to believe Defendant committed the following offense(s):

COUNT I

Charge: Promotes Prostitution-Under 18 yr Old

Minnesota Statute: 609.322.1(a)(2), with reference to: 609.322.1(a)

Maximum Sentence: 20 YEARS AND/OR \$50,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 08/01/2017

Control #(ICR#): 18016201

Charge Description: That between August 1, 2017 and March 30, 2018 in Hennepin County, Minnesota, Brendian Kewon Daniels, born 05/14/1980, while acting other than as a prostitute or patron, did intentionally promote the prostitution of an individual under the age of 18 years, VICTIM 1.

COUNT II

Charge: Promotes Prostitution-Under 18 yr Old

Minnesota Statute: 609.322.1(a)(2), with reference to: 609.322.1(a)

Maximum Sentence: 20 YEARS AND/OR \$50,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 08/01/2017

Control #(ICR#): 18016201

Charge Description: That between August 1, 2017 and March 30, 2018, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, Brendian Kewon Daniels, born 05/14/1980, while acting other than as a prostitute or patron, did intentionally promote the prostitution of an individual under the age of 18 years, VICTIM 2.

COUNT III

Charge: Receives Profit from Prostitution-Under 18 yr Old

Minnesota Statute: 609.322.1(a)(3), with reference to: 609.322.1(a)

Maximum Sentence: 20 YEARS AND/OR \$50,000

Offense Level: Felony

Offense Date (on or about): 08/01/2017

Control #(ICR#): 18016201

Charge Description: That between August 1, 2017 and March 30, 2018, in Hennepin County, Minnesota, Brendian Kewon Daniels received profit knowing or having reason to know that it was derived from prostitution, or the promotion of the prostitution, of an individual under the age of 18 years, VICTIM 1.

STATEMENT OF PROBABLE CAUSE

Complainant has investigated the facts and circumstances of this offense and believes the following establishes probable cause:

In August 2017, law enforcement in Brooklyn Park and Minneapolis began an investigation into sex trafficking involving the exploitation of underage girls. Ultimately, law enforcement identified two adult men, BRENDIAN KEWON DANIELS (known as "Buddha"), DOB: 5/14/1980, DEFENDANT HEREIN, and RAPHAEL LANDON POWELL, as suspects in the trafficking of numerous underage victims.

On October 19, 2017, investigators attempted to interview a fifteen-year-old girl, "Victim 1," at a hospital in Minneapolis. Victim 1 had been "on the run" from her home for a significant period of time and was brought in after being detained for shoplifting at a store in Brooklyn Center. Victim 1 told investigators that she had been with DANIELS and POWELL, among others, and identified photos of both men, but was otherwise reluctant to speak to officers. Victim 1 ultimately made a phone call from the hospital to a phone number known to be associated with DANIELS and fled on foot from the hospital to a waiting car.

On October 24, 2017, investigators spoke with another fifteen-year-old girl, "Victim 2," after she returned home from being "on the run." Victim 2 reported that she had been with Victim 1 as well as a woman named Lanesha and another underage girl, "Witness 1." Victim 2 denied engaging in prostitution but told police that Victim 1 was posting photos and advertisements for "dates" on a social networking application. Victim 2 reported that Victim 1 used two phones – one for personal use and the other for setting up "dates" and posting ads. Victim 2 also said that Lanesha had been wearing an electronic monitoring bracelet and that Victim 1 had helped Lanesha cut the bracelet off on Saturday, October 22. Lanesha was identified by investigators, and they confirmed that she had removed a court-ordered monitoring bracelet on October 22.

On October 25, 2017, investigators went to the apartment in Brooklyn Park described by Victim 2. In the apartment, officers encountered only Witness 1, who was eventually identified as a missing child from Brooklyn Park. Witness 1 told investigators that Victim 1, Lanesha, DANIELS, and POWELL were staying at the apartment. She described Victim 1 as DANIELS' "girlfriend" and Lanesha as POWELL's girlfriend. Witness 1 also reported that POWELL had been having sex with Victim 2. Witness 1 said that both Victim 1 and Lanesha would post ads for sex and go on "dates," including "car dates" which took place in the parking lot of the apartment complex. Witness 1 said that Victim 1 would give the money she made from "dates" to DANIELS, and Lanesha would give the money she made to POWELL. Witness 1 told investigators Victim 1's prices for various sex acts, including intercourse and oral sex. Witness 1 said that Victim 1 used two phones – one for personal use and the other for setting up "dates" and posting ads.

On December 15, 2017, an investigator interviewed Victim 2 a second time. Victim 2 reported that she had connected with Victim 1 during the summer of 2017 after knowing Victim 1 from middle school. Victim 2 said she went with Victim 1 to an apartment where she ultimately had sex with POWELL. Victim 2 reported that she became pregnant during the summer of 2017 and that she believed POWELL was the father. Victim 2 described Victim 1 taking photos of herself in her underwear and posting ads for sex from the apartment in Brooklyn Park where Witness 1 had been found in October. Victim 2 said that Victim 1 would give the money made during "dates" to DANIELS and that Victim 1's pseudonym in the ads was "Diamond."

On March 21, 2018, an investigator met with Victim 1 and her mother. Victim 1 was again reluctant to answer questions, but the investigator left some written questions for Victim 1 to answer if she chose. On March 28, Victim 1's mother emailed the investigator Victim 1's answers. Victim 1 wrote, "Buddha told me

what to do and I was in situation I had to do whatever he told me to do.” In response to whether or not she had sex for money or other things, Victim 1 wrote, “Yes, it was how I was told I have to live.” In response to whether or not she was directed to recruit other girls, Victim 1 wrote, “Yes, Buddha told me to hit my friends up so they can make him some money. He had me contact girls I knew.” Victim 1 said she went by the name “Diamond” in online ads and reported the prices for various sex acts.

On March 25, law enforcement took Victim 2 into custody after she ran away from home and was stopped by the State Patrol in a vehicle with two older males. Victim 2 was transported to the hospital, where an investigator spoke to her the next day. Victim 2 reported that she had been with DANIELS, POWELL, Witness 1, and Laneshia (among others) for the previous week at a motel in Brooklyn Center. Victim 2 admitted that she had placed a profile on a social networking application for the purpose of obtaining “dates” and making money. The profile included pictures of Victim 2 in her underwear. Victim 2 reported that DANIELS would set up “dates” and tell her when they were coming and how much money she should charge. Victim 2 said that Laneshia and another woman would let the men into the motel through a back door. Victim 2 described having sex on one occasion for \$150 and said that she kept the money, except to put some of it toward the room rental.

Defendant is in custody.

Defendant has significant criminal history in Illinois, including six felony convictions. In addition, he was the subject of five warrants – including two for failure to appear – in 2017 in Minnesota. As such, the State requests high bail.

SIGNATURES AND APPROVALS

Complainant requests that Defendant, subject to bail or conditions of release, be:
(1) arrested or that other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court; or
(2) detained, if already in custody, pending further proceedings; and that said Defendant otherwise be dealt with according to law.

Complainant declares under penalty of perjury that everything stated in this document is true and correct. Minn. Stat. § 358.116; Minn. R. Crim. P. 2.01, subds. 1, 2.

Complainant

Jeremiah R Carlson
Police Officer
5400 85th Ave N
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443
Badge: 219

Electronically Signed:
04/06/2018 11:57 AM
Hennepin County, Minnesota

Being authorized to prosecute the offenses charged, I approve this complaint.

Prosecuting Attorney

Paige L Starkey
300 S 6th St
Minneapolis, MN 55487
(612) 348-5550

Electronically Signed:
04/06/2018 11:51 AM

FINDING OF PROBABLE CAUSE

From the above sworn facts, and any supporting affidavits or supplemental sworn testimony, I, the Issuing Officer, have determined that probable cause exists to support, subject to bail or conditions of release where applicable, Defendant's arrest or other lawful steps be taken to obtain Defendant's appearance in court, or Defendant's detention, if already in custody, pending further proceedings. Defendant is therefore charged with the above-stated offense(s).

SUMMONS

THEREFORE YOU, THE DEFENDANT, ARE SUMMONED to appear on _____, _____ at _____ AM/PM before the above-named court at 300 S Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487 to answer this complaint.

IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR in response to this SUMMONS, a WARRANT FOR YOUR ARREST shall be issued.

WARRANT

To the Sheriff of the above-named county; or other person authorized to execute this warrant: I order, in the name of the State of Minnesota, that the Defendant be apprehended and arrested without delay and brought promptly before the court (if in session), and if not, before a Judge or Judicial Officer of such court without unnecessary delay, and in any event not later than 36 hours after the arrest or as soon as such Judge or Judicial Officer is available to be dealt with according to law.

- Execute in MN Only* *Execute Nationwide* *Execute in Border States*

ORDER OF DETENTION

Since the Defendant is already in custody, I order, subject to bail or conditions of release, that the Defendant continue to be detained pending further proceedings.

Bail: \$750,000.00
Conditions of Release:

This complaint, duly subscribed and sworn to or signed under penalty of perjury, is issued by the undersigned Judicial Officer as of the following date: April 6, 2018.

Judicial Officer Gina Brandt Electronically Signed: 04/06/2018 12:10 PM
District Court Judge

Sworn testimony has been given before the Judicial Officer by the following witnesses:

**COUNTY OF HENNEPIN
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

State of Minnesota

Plaintiff
vs.

Brendian Kewon Daniels

Defendant

*LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER RETURN OF SERVICE
I hereby Certify and Return that I have served a copy of this Order of
Detention upon the Defendant herein named.*

Signature of Authorized Service Agent:

DEFENDANT FACT SHEET

Name: Brendian Kewon Daniels
DOB: 05/14/1980
Address: 2631 Newton Ave N
Minneapolis, MN 55411

Alias Names/DOB:

SID: MN17KK7021

Height:

Weight:

Eye Color:

Hair Color:

Gender: MALE

Race: Black

Fingerprints Required per Statute: Yes

Fingerprint match to Criminal History Record: Yes

Driver's License #:

SILS Person ID #: 808866

SILS Tracking No. 3005129

Case Scheduling Information: Co-Defendant: RAPHAEL LANDON POWELL 18A04171

Alcohol Concentration:

STATUTE AND OFFENSE GRID

Cnt Nbr	Statute Type	Offense Date(s)	Statute Nbrs and Descriptions	Offense Level	MOC	GOC	Controlling Agencies	Case Numbers
1	Charge	8/1/2017	609.322.1(a)(2) Promotes Prostitution-Under 18 yr Old	Felony	Z1301		MN0270300	18016201
	Penalty	8/1/2017	609.322.1(a) Solicit /Induce/Promote Prostitution;Trafficking - Individuals Under 18	Felony	Z1301		MN0270300	18016201
2	Charge	8/1/2017	609.322.1(a)(2) Promotes Prostitution-Under 18 yr Old	Felony	Z1301		MN0270300	18016201
	Penalty	8/1/2017	609.322.1(a) Solicit /Induce/Promote Prostitution;Trafficking - Individuals Under 18	Felony	Z1301		MN0270300	18016201
3	Charge	8/1/2017	609.322.1(a)(3) Receives Profit from Prostitution-Under 18 yr Old	Felony	Z1501		MN0270300	18016201
	Penalty	8/1/2017	609.322.1(a) Solicit /Induce/Promote Prostitution;Trafficking - Individuals Under 18	Felony	Z1501		MN0270300	18016201